

Categorical Exclusion Determination

Bonneville Power Administration
Department of Energy



Proposed Action: Franklin-Badger Canyon No. 2 Transmission Line Structure 1/6 Impairment Remedy

Project No.: 3,900

Project Manager: Olga Hagensen, TELF-TPP-3

Location: Franklin County, WA

Categorical Exclusion Applied (from Subpart D, 10 C.F.R. Part 1021): B1.3 Routine Maintenance

Description of the Proposed Action: The Bonneville Power Administration (BPA) is proposing to remedy an impairment along the Franklin-Badger Canyon No. 2 corridor ahead on line (AOL) from structure 1/6. Impairments occur when the distance between a surface and the overhead conductor are not sufficient to meet safety and reliability standards. BPA is proposing to repair the impairment along the Franklin-Badger Canyon No. 2 corridor by excavating earth, using dozers and excavators. Ground disturbance may occur outside the impaired area in order to achieve soil stabilization. The site will be accessed using existing access roads.

Findings: In accordance with Section 1021.410(b) of the Department of Energy's (DOE) National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) Regulations (57 FR 15144, Apr. 24, 1992, as amended at 61 FR 36221-36243, July 9, 1996; 61 FR 64608, Dec. 6, 1996, 76 FR 63764, Nov. 14, 2011), BPA has determined that the proposed action:

- (1) fits within a class of actions listed in Appendix B of 10 CFR 1021, Subpart D see attached Environmental Checklist);
- (2) does not present any extraordinary circumstances that may affect the significance of the environmental effects of the proposal; and
- (3) has not been segmented to meet the definition of a categorical exclusion.

Based on these determinations, BPA finds that the proposed action is categorically excluded from further NEPA review.

/s/ Michelle Colletti
Michelle Colletti
Physical Scientist

Concur:

/s/ Stacy L. Mason
Stacy L. Mason
NEPA Compliance Officer

Date: October 29, 2018

Attachment(s): Environmental Checklist

Categorical Exclusion Environmental Checklist

This checklist documents environmental considerations for the proposed project and explains why the project would not have the potential to cause significant impacts on environmentally sensitive resources and would meet other integral elements of the applied categorical exclusion.

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Project Site Description

The proposed project is located in Franklin County, WA in a suburban industrial area, and includes work along the Franklin-Badger Canyon No. 2 transmission line.

Evaluation of Potential Impacts to Environmental Resources

Environmental Resource Impacts	No Potential for Significance	No Potential for Significance, with Conditions
1. Historic and Cultural Resources	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<p><u>Explanation:</u> A cultural survey was conducted at the Franklin-Badger Canyon No.2 impairment. Report findings indicated no historic properties affected by the undertaking. The Washington State DAHP concurred with BPA's No Historic Properties Affected determination for the Franklin-Badger Canyon No.2 impairment project location listed in this CX on August 29, 2018.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Crews and equipment are to use existing access roads to and from each work site.• In the event that archaeological or historical materials are discovered during project activities, work in the immediate vicinity must stop, the area secured, and the SHPO and the environmental and cultural project leads would be notified.		
2. Geology and Soils	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<p><u>Explanation:</u> The project would require about 150 cubic yards of soil removal at the impairment location. The soil would be spread onsite and restabilized.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">✓ Best Management Practices (BMPs) for erosion and sediment controls for soil stabilization would be implemented.✓ Vehicles would be limited to access roads and immediate work areas.		
3. Plants (including federal/state special-status species)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<p><u>Explanation:</u> No federal/special status plant species are present within the project areas. Disturbed areas would be restored as necessary.</p>		
4. Wildlife (including federal/state special-status species and habitats)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<p><u>Explanation:</u> No special-status species or designated habitats are present.</p>		

5. **Water Bodies, Floodplains, and Fish**
(including federal/state special-status
species and ESUs)



Explanation: There are no federal/state special status species, water bodies, or flood plains found within the project area.

6. **Wetlands**



Explanation: No wetlands are present in the project area.

7. **Groundwater and Aquifers**



Explanation: No wells or use of groundwater proposed.

8. **Land Use and Specially Designated Areas**



Explanation: The project area is located primarily in existing transmission line right-of-way. No special restrictions apply and no additional land use evaluation has occurred.

9. **Visual Quality**



Explanation: : Proposed action is on existing right of way and would not alter or effect visual quality

10. **Air Quality**



Explanation: Small amounts of dust and vehicle emissions due to construction. Dust abatement BMPS would be used to control construction impacts.

11. **Noise**



Explanation: Construction noise would be temporary and localized.

12. **Human Health and Safety**



Explanation: No impact to human health and safety is anticipated.

Evaluation of Other Integral Elements

The proposed project would also meet conditions that are integral elements of the categorical exclusion. The project would not:

- Threaten a violation of applicable statutory, regulatory, or permit requirements for environment, safety, and health, or similar requirements of DOE or Executive Orders.

Explanation, if necessary:

- Require siting and construction or major expansion of waste storage, disposal, recovery, or treatment facilities (including incinerators) that are not otherwise categorically excluded.

Explanation, if necessary:

- Disturb hazardous substances, pollutants, contaminants, or CERCLA excluded petroleum and natural gas products that preexist in the environment such that there would be uncontrolled or unpermitted releases.

Explanation, if necessary:

- Involve genetically engineered organisms, synthetic biology, governmentally designated noxious weeds, or invasive species, unless the proposed activity would be contained or confined in a manner designed and operated to prevent unauthorized release into the environment and conducted in accordance with applicable requirements, such as those of the Department of Agriculture, the Environmental Protection Agency, and the National Institutes of Health.

Explanation, if necessary:

Landowner Notification, Involvement, or Coordination

Description: BPA Realty will make the necessary landowner notifications.

Based on the foregoing, this proposed project does not have the potential to cause significant impacts on any environmentally sensitive resources.

Signed: /s/ Michelle Colletti
Michelle Colletti
Physical Scientist - EPR

Date: October 29, 2018